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Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANA 00698 170549Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 IGA-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00
PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 /059 W
----------170556Z 073216 /20
R 161340Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY SANA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0453
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY JIDDA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANA 0698

E.O. 1652 GDS
TAGS: PINT, YE
SUBJ: LEFTIST CRITICISM OF AID

REF: SANA 0572

1. DURING FEBRUARY 12DRIVE TO TAIZ, MINISTER OF STATE AND PRESIDENTIAL CONFIDANT AHMAD ABDU SAID TOLD ME THAT AL-HAMDI WAS QUITE ANGRY ABOUT THE RECENT AL-THAWRA ARTICLE (SEE REFTEL), WHICH WAS CRITICAL OF AID OPERATIONS HERE. HE SAID THAT THE PRESIDENT WISHED TO CONVEY TO ME HIS PERSONAL AS WELL AS HIS GOVERNMENT'S APOLOGIES FOR THE ARTICLE AND TO INFORM THAT ACTION WILL BE TAKEN AGAINST THE AUTHOR.

2. SAID CONTINUED THAT THE PRESIDENT HAS BEEN AWARE FOR A LONG TIME THAT THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION IS FILLED WITH "UNRELIABLE PERSONS WITH LEFTIST PROCLIVITIES." THE HAS HAD TO MOVE CAUTIOUSLY, HOWEVER, IN ORDER TO CLEAN UP THE MINISTRY. SAID SAID THAT THE PRESIDENT IS BUILDING A CASE AGAINST VARIOUS INDIVIDUALS WITHIN THE MINISTRY AND THAT HE WILL TAKE ACTION AGAINST THEM AT THE APPRPRIATE TIME.

3. INAL-THAWRA OF FEBRUARY 16 THE AUTHOR OF THE REFERNECE ARTICLE PUBLISHED AN EDITORIAL WHICH WHILE SEEMINGLY IN CONFIDENTIAL

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SUPPORT OF THE GOVERNMENT'S FIVEAYEAR PLAN CRITICIZES IT FOR AMONG OTHER THINGS ENCOURAGING "FOREIGN DOMINATION OF YEMEN'S ECONOMCY". THE ARTICLE IS ALSO REPLETE WITH USUAL LEFTIST CLICHES ABOUT THE MASSES AND THEIR ROLE IN ECONMOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

4. COMMENT: THUS, THE WRITER OF THE ARTICLE IS STILL PRO-

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DUCING HIS CRITICISMS OF THE GOVERNMENT'S PRESENT MODERATE POLICIES. IF AL-HAMDI'S PAST PERFORMANCE AND WORDS ARE ANY GUIDE, HOWEVER, ACTION WILL EVENTUALLY BE TAKEN AGAINST THE MAN AND THE OTHER "LEFTISTS" BUT AT A TIME OF AL-HAMDI'S CHOOSING. MEANWHILE, E CAN CONSOLE OURSELVES WITH THE FACT THAT THESE ARTICLES ARE NOT HAVNGN MUCH OF AN IMPACT, GIVEN THE LIMITED READERSHIP OF AL-THAWRA.
SCOTES

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Subject: LEFTIST CRITICISM OF AID
TAGS: PINT, YE
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